

FILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL" UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

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December 1, 2004

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1654

JOSEPH M. AULT

Examiner: Meller, Michael V.

APPLICATION NO: 10/006,311

FILED: DECEMBER 4, 2001

FOR: PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS FOR THE ORAL DELIVERY
OF PHARMACOLOGICALLY ACTIVE AGENTSCommissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

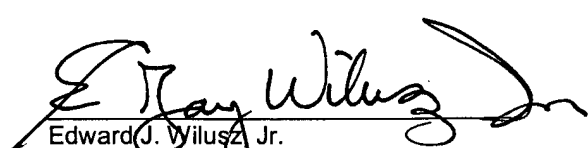
The Office Action of June 1, 2004 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on September 1, 2004. A three-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$980 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: December 1, 2004


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